

ESTABLISHED IN 1861

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

THE OLDEST BEE-PAPER IN AMERICA

DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE INTERESTS OF HONEY PRODUCERS

35th Year.

CHICAGO, ILL., NOV. 14, 1895.

No. 46.

Contributed Articles.

On Important Apiarian Subjects.

Reminiscences of Rev. L. L. Langstroth.

BY REV. W. F. M'CAULEY.

(Continued from page 710.)

Mr. Langstroth was a graduate of Yale College, and at the time of his death only eight or ten older alumni were living. He was also a patriarch in the Dayton Presbytery, of which he was a member many years. His home at Oxford, as well as that in Dayton, was within the bounds of the Presbytery named. He was second on the roll, which was prepared according to the dates of the ordination of the members. He never attended but one or two meetings of the Presbytery, to my knowledge, in the last eight years of his life, on account of bodily infirmity or distance; but I remember that on one occasion when he did attend, he came to the front at a point in the session, in a manner both striking and pleasant. I have been the bearer of his regrets to the Presbytery for his inability to be present.

Evidently he never lost interest in the church of his choice, or in the affairs of the denomination at large. When a church difficulty was under consideration in a committee room, he expressed a desire to meet with those who were discussing the matter, saying that he knew of an incident, the relation of which had settled two church quarrels, and he thought it might be effective in the case in hand. The incident was simple enough, but contained a wealth of philosophical suggestion: A farmer's sons had gone West to look up a home, and having found a desirable location, wrote back, extolling the merits of the place, but added: "And 'sassafig' grows here, too!" Said the father, indignantly, on receiving the epistle, "I have been all my life contending with 'sassafig,' and I am not going West to fight any more 'sassafig!'" Mr. Langstroth said that we could not get away from "sassafig;" that "'sassafig' grows here, too;" and that we might as well make up our minds not to expect perfection in any congregation, but go on in a brotherly way with patient forbearance. I am inclined to think that for some reason he did not have the opportunity to relate the incident to the contending parties, and that the difficulty did not end but in the organization of another church, thus creating a new agency for the conflict with "sassafig."

When his physical condition permitted, he was a frequent visitor at the 4 o'clock Y. M. C. A. meetings, on Sabbath, where he often spoke, with an earnestness and practicality that were most impressive. One of the concluding acts of his life, after the final cloud of melancholia had dissolved into the rejoicing sunlight, was to attend the Dayton Y. M. C. A. and speak in the gospel service. His enunciation in public address, as in private conversation, was always distinct, and his manner left the impression of a wide personal experience behind his words.

He occasionally preached, while a resident of Dayton, and was always ready to assist in a communion service, where his glow of feeling warmed all hearts. He once preached for me on Romans 15:13. The text may be taken as illustrating the general cast of his daily thought. On the occasion named, the large pulpit Bible, through an inadvertence, fell to the floor; but though embarrassed by the accident, he preserved

his composure, and preached throughout in a connected and helpful manner. This incident shows how faithful he was to every opportunity to do good, even when his service had to be performed under the disadvantages of old age.

Once he apologized for not always being present at the morning service, saying that he thought he could do more for the pastor by going about to other churches and speaking favorably of his minister when there was a proper opportunity to do so. It would seem that he always had some plan in his mind whereby he could help a brother in his work, or assist a cause, or promote a general good. He felt that perhaps he still had a mission for his closing years.

In company with another he made a call on a wealthy benefactress of her race in Dayton, in behalf of Western Female Seminary at Oxford, and doubtless his appeal had much to do with securing from her the donation of \$5,000.

He possessed, to a considerable degree, poetic power. Two hymns from his pen I give here, and I do not know if any more may be found among his literary remains. Some years ago, he brought me a hymn, which he subsequently revised to some extent, saying that Karl Merz, formerly professor of music in the university town of Oxford, had written music for it, but that the manuscript had been lost. The hymn, set to a new tune, as a result of the interview, and afterward published, is as follows:

LONGINGS FOR CHRIST AND HOME.

BY REV. L. L. LANGSTROTH.

Thou precious, loving Lamb of God;
For our sins slain on Calvary,
It is thy will, 'twas sealed by blood,
That where thou art there we shall be.

Oh, who would then live always here?
Is earth a satisfying place?
Dear Jesus, we shall praise thee where
We see thy glory face to face.

Meek sufferer on that shameful tree—
Herein is love! herein is love!
Thy chastened children thirst for thee,
And pant for living streams above.

Strangers and pilgrims here we roam
Till gathered, Savior, to thy breast,
And sheltered there with thee at home—
Oh, happy home! oh, holy rest!

The other hymn, for which special music was also written, was sung by a choir at a Y. M. C. A. meeting, but, so far as I know, has not heretofore been published. It seems to have had no title, and the one given here is my own selection.

LOVE'S ANSWER.

BY REV. L. L. LANGSTROTH.

Precious Savior! Holy Name!
Knowing well this poor, weak frame,
Burdened sore with sin and shame,
Canst thou love me still the same?

Yes! dear child; for love I came,
On my cross bore all thy blame:
Forward! conquer in my name!
Know I love thee still the same!

In May, 1895, I changed my residence to Toledo, and for some months did not come into contact with Mr. Langstroth, but in September he and Mrs. Cowan, his daughter, spent a night and part of the preceding day with us, when on their

way to the bee-keepers' convention in Toronto. This visit was most delightful. Mr. Langstroth was in a happy mood, and enjoyed himself fully. In the afternoon, we went to Walbridge Park, on the banks of the river above the city, from which there is an extensive and beautiful view. He was in harmony with all his surroundings. There we talked over matters of mutual interest, and opened up each other's experiences, purposes, and feelings. He spoke afterward of how much better he had come to know "Brother McCauley" through this visit.

He related to me an incident of his tutorship in Yale, and told how he had given personal attention, out of hours, to students in special need of instruction. On one occasion on account of previous illness, he missed the hour for his class. It was a custom in Yale for the students to dismiss themselves when the teacher was late, but one of the members of the class said: "Is this the way to treat Tutor Langstroth, who has been so kind to us?" and they appointed one of their number to inform the teacher that it was time for the recitation. He was found still in his room, but the class waited patiently for him.

A second time he was late, and a second time the class waited, and then Mr. Langstroth informed his scholars that if he was late again they might dismiss themselves without ceremony.

On the journey to and from the Park, Mr. Langstroth showed considerable physical vigor, needing no assistance in stepping on and off the cars, saying, "Only give me time." He spoke with great satisfaction of the fact that his memory had brought back to him things at one time forgotten. He quoted favorite passages, and even Homer in the original. I have now a little pocket present which at that time he said he would request to be sent me. The matter, though small, did not escape his attention, but the article came promptly, after the Toronto convention. He spoke of his recurrent physical infirmity, and said that he thought Shakespeare had written Hamlet out of his own experience, or that of some friend—he had so exactly described the conditions of the case. He quoted from Hamlet where he says that he had lost all his mirth, "foregone all custom of exercises," that the earth was like a "sterile promontory," and the air and the "majestical roof fretted with golden fire," like a "pestilent congregation of vapors."

Mr. Langstroth told how a certain scene in New England had seemed all loveliness when he drove through it one day, free from physical depression, and how it possessed not the slightest interest for him on another occasion, when in a state of melancholy.

The next morning after this conversation, we parted at the Union station in Toledo, not to meet again on earth. Monday forenoon, Oct. 7, I received word from Dayton that Mr. Langstroth was no more, "for God took him." On the previous Sabbath he had gone to the church, to attend the communion service and to assist the pastor in its administration. All the members of Mrs. Cowan's family were at home and attended the service, but one. Among the number was her grandchild, the infant daughter of Lorraine Cowan, of Indianapolis. "Take her," said Mr. Langstroth, "and then, in after years, she can say that the first time she ever went to church she heard her great-grandfather preach."

At the church, the pulpit was put aside on the rostrum, and a chair placed for Mr. Langstroth, who said that he "did not feel as well as usual." He sat down and said, in substance, "I want to talk to you of the love of God, and how we ought—" then paused and wavered. The pastor, Rev. Raber, noticed the circumstance, and came to his assistance, and in a moment Aurelius Cowan was at his grandfather's side. Most of the audience remained in their seats, and no one cried out. There were two physicians present, but there was no opportunity for medical skill.

Thus amid silence and awe the spirit of our friend and brother went swiftly away "in the beauty of holiness." I have thought, again and again, how significant and beautiful was that death. For him was fulfilled the promise, "At evening time it shall be light." After a variety of experiences, and a full share of peculiar affliction, he was enabled to round up his career with satisfaction and triumph. A time of "clear shining after rain" was given him to journey to the bee-keepers' convention of North America, and thus bear, at the very close of life, his well-earned honors, thick upon him. Deprived of the work of the pastorate through so many years, he was permitted to die in the very performance of the ministerial office, and in the administration of the Lord's supper.

We gather from his closing years the benefits of his ripened character; and as we pause awhile in the after-glow of his life, we read the lesson of trust in God, who disposes events to his own glory and the final good of his children.

In closing these reminiscences, I can no better express my feelings than by quoting two stanzas, written and set to the tune by Karl Merz, which was found by and by, and published with a dedication to Bro. Langstroth:

Sweet peace of God the aged know
Who walk for him this weary way;
With joy they leave the scenes below,
And mount on wings to youth's fair day;
Earth's highest wisdom they repeat,
Then on the endless ages roll:
Here, sweetest hours at Jesus' feet;
There, sweeps the pathway of the soul.

Toledo, Ohio.



What Dr. Miller Thinks.

THAT CANADIAN LAW.—Has one of the Bee Journal typos been juggling with that Canadian law on page 684? or what does it mean, anyhow? "4. Any unpursued swarm which lodges on any property whatsoever without settling thereon, may be secured by the first comer unless the proprietor of the land objects." How can they "lodge" without "settling?" and how can they be "secured" without settling?

SWEET CLOVER.—I am quite interested to know more about the failure of sweet clover mentioned on page 686. Will Mr. Lovesy please tell us whether he knows any reason why it failed? Were the bees working on nothing else at the time? I've been used to thinking of sweet clover as one of the things that always yielded honey, although I don't know any reason why it should not fail as well as white clover.

SIZE AND SHAPE OF BEES.—J. H. Andre mentions something quite new to me, on page 697, that is, deciding that a number of bees all belong to the same colony because they are of the same size and shape. I never tried it, but I have no idea that I could make sure that any two bees taken from my hives belonged to the same colony merely by their size and shape. Just think what a variety there must be in an apiary of a hundred colonies, if no two colonies have bees of the same size and shape.

Another thing he mentions will probably be new to most bee-keepers, and that is that when two colonies of different localities are working on small pieces of comb, one of them will generally retire and leave the other in possession of the sweets.

TAKING HONEY TO MARKET.—On page 700 the editor favors the plan of taking a carload of honey to market and going with it. Sometimes that might be the best way, but I don't know that it would always be so. If one could be sure of striking a bare market there would be no trouble. But if all were to act on the plan, there would likely be a good many carloads moving at about the same time, and there being no concert of action, they might nearly all strike the same market. The buyers would not be slow to take advantage of the situation. The honey is there—must be disposed of in some way, and buyers can have things their own way. Very likely the editor may ask what is a better way. I don't know. That's a question every fool can't answer.

NUMBERING HIVES.—That's a good way to number hives, given by R. V. Sauer, on page 702. I think, however, I can suggest an improvement, and that is to have a number on each hive, and have the numbers so large that they can be seen from any part of the apiary. In that case I think the average length of time to get where the number will be seen will be less than the time taken to count along the alphabet and then down the row. And I feel sure I should be less likely to make mistakes. I heartily endorse what he says about the pleasure of sitting down in the house to look over the day's work and map out the next.

STOPPING ROBBERING.—The plan given on page 707 for stopping robbing—breaking the combs of the robbers—is a very old one, but I think it has not proved reliable.

CRIMSON CLOVER.—E. B. Thomas says on page 702: "It is useless to sow it in the spring, as it will not thrive." I think all writers agree in that. And yet a small patch that I had sown last spring with oats came up and blossomed, and now, after hard freezing weather, looks quite green. I expected it to die down after blooming, but it kept on as green

as ever. But it will probably succumb to the winter, whereas if it had not blossomed it would stand a chance of living through. Possibly if I should see how it grows when sown in the fall, I would say that mine did not "thrive."

Marengo, Ill.



Co-Operation Among Bee-Keepers.

BY PROF. A. J. COOK.

There is much discussion among bee-keepers as to the desirability of some kind of co-operation—the inauguration of something like the Citrus-Fruit Exchange—some move that will insure a living price for the honey produced. At the last meeting of the State Bee-Keepers' Association no subject received so much attention or elicited more earnest discussion than this. Since that time, I, as president of the Association, have received many letters regarding this subject from nearly every honey-producing section of Southern California. The people are alive to the importance—the absolute necessity of some such action; indeed, upon motion at the last meeting of the State Association, nearly every one present pledged himself to co-operate in such a movement in case it was inaugurated. The Los Angeles County Association have called a meeting to consider this one subject.

That there is this unrest and desire for some improvement will be easily explained, if we look for a moment at facts. It is acknowledged everywhere, that California honey is equal to the very best produced in any country. Therefore there is no reason in the quality of the honey why our product should sell for one farthing less than the best produced in the East, Europe, or even Mt. Hymettus of Greece. Yet it is a fact that while the Eastern producer secures readily from six to eight cents for extracted honey, an every way equal article often sells for four or even three cents per pound in the honey-producing region of California.

One of our largest honey-producers stated at the meeting referred to, with an unctious well earned by success, that he, by building a storage house, so he could keep his honey if the markets were not satisfactory, had secured six cents for all his honey and would sell for no less. It is unnecessary to say that he was regarded with envy by all present. Yet even this seems no large price, when we consider that the price East is two cents more for the same quality of honey, and that the freight rate is only one cent. per pound, or only 20 per cent. of the selling price of the honey. It goes without saying that every pound of first-class honey—and we have little else, produced in California—ought to bring the producer at least seven cents per pound, and might, if the proper machinery was put in motion to bring it cheaply and quickly into the markets of the East.

There are real obstacles in the way of securing efficient co-operation: First, the producers are often poor and must have immediate returns. Indeed, they often secure money on a prospective crop. Of course such accommodation is difficult, if not absolutely impossible, in any scheme of co-operation. In fact, to realize on anticipation almost always requires large discount, and, in part, explains the low price secured by California bee-keepers for their honey, and what is more to be regretted, often determines the price for all honey. It is difficult to see how any system of co-operation could meet such wants.

Again, it is almost impossible to secure the union of all bee-keepers in any system which may be adopted. Some of the most intelligent and forehanded of our bee-keepers, like the one already referred to, feel satisfied with their sales—so much in advance of the usual market—and see no need of union for themselves, though they acknowledge that it would be of great service to most of the craft. Others are poor and feel that they cannot wait for the slow processes of co-operation, and others, still, are ignorant, and maybe, suspicious, which is the usual companion of ignorance, and so are afraid to trust any exchange or union that takes their property before a cash return is made. Yet, any scheme of co-operation which is limited to the honey product, must of necessity be general if it is to be of very much account.

With so many and such decided difficulties before the California bee-keepers, it is a question of no easy solution just how a successful method of co-operation can be brought into general practice.

It has been hoped by some that some other organization like the Citrus Fruit Exchange might also arrange to dispose of the honey. It is claimed that this would save duplication of much of the necessary machinery, such as room for storage, agents in the Eastern field to find a market, etc. It is very probable that if the officers would take the same interest and

exercise the same care in the marketing of the honey that they exercise in the sale of oranges, that this would be the wisest plan, if the apiarists could unite in trusting their product to them.

The second plan is for the bee-keepers to co-operate and form a honey exchange, like that now organized by the Citrus Fruit growers. To make this a success the bee-keepers generally must give to it earnest support. As we have seen, lack of confidence on the part of some, and need to anticipate actual sales by others, are likely to interfere with the general co-operation that is absolutely necessary to any considerable success.

A third plan promises the least friction and greatest assurance of success, which if successful, will soon lead to the adoption of the plan last mentioned, as it will prove to the doubtful that co-operation is feasible and has practicable merit. This plan is suggested by the experience of some bee-keepers, notably H. E. Wilder, of Riverside, who, two years ago, took his large honey crop East and disposed of it at a good figure. The plan is to send some man like Mr. Wilder, in whom the bee-keepers have confidence, East with a carload of honey, to be followed by other carloads as he gives orders. If desired, this person could give bonds equal to one or two carloads of honey, and he would remit as rapidly as sales were made. Only those who had confidence in this scheme need join the enterprise, and if the success which is hoped attends the scheme, others would join another year, and as nothing succeeds like success, we might well hope and expect that this plan would soon ripen into a honey exchange which would sweep into its embrace all, or substantially all, the apiarists of Southern California. It seems that this plan has much to recommend it, and no insuperable difficulty in the way of its accomplishment. It is to be hoped that this plan may be tried this season. There is no better place for it to materialize than in San Bernardino, Riverside and Los Angeles counties, as in no sections of the world are there more enterprising intelligent apiarists. In the hands of honest, pushing, wide-awake men, such a scheme may do much to bring immediate benefit, and be more fruitful of good in opening the door to the grand scheme of co-operation that shall reach, with blessing, to all the honey producers of Southern California.—September Rural Californian. Claremont, Calif.



Sweet Clover for Honey and Forage in Nebraska

BY WM. STOLLEY.

Frequent requests made in the columns of the American Bee Journal, asking for more information about sweet or mellilot clover, are the incentives causing me to report my experience with this most excellent honey and forage plant. For about 10 years I have grown it, partly for pasturage and forage for cattle, but also for the purpose of providing for my bees the required bee-pasturage.

For years I have had from 4 to 10 acres growing with mellilot, and the public roads within about two miles of my apiary are more or less occupied by it now. The result is a remarkable one, considering that my location naturally is a very poor one respecting honey-production. From natural bloom we have no surplus, except from the middle of August until about the middle of September, and this surplus is dark in color and rank in taste. What are the conditions now? Let us see:

I began with 17 colonies last spring. On April 3 I found 12 colonies in first-class condition, 4 colonies were but medium, and one colony was quite weak. October 15 my carefully kept record showed this:

Best colony, 237 pounds of surplus extracted honey; weakest colony, 97. Total amount of extracted honey secured, 2,980 pounds. Increase, 13 colonies.

I had 8 natural swarms, of which 2 absconded. My average per colony is 175½ pounds of honey. In light colored honey I got about 2,000 pounds, and my fall honey is by no means dark, for the reason that a large percentage of it is sweet clover honey.

I have also, to a great extent, requeened my apiary, so that I have now 22 choice tested queen of 1895, and but 8 fine queens of 1894.

All my colonies were finished packed inside the hives on Oct. 15, with plenty of natural stores (mostly white honey), and will winter as usual on the summer stands, in a bee-shed open to northeast, east and southeast. Now to return to sweet clover.

I will say further, that the hostility of some farmers against sweet clover is abating. It has taken them years to learn that sweet clover is one of our most valuable forage and pasturage plants, but they are forced to "acknowledge the

corn" at last. For years we have had a protracted drouth in this part of the world. Early last spring there actually was nothing to feed to horses and cows, with many a poor man in the city, and a great many farmers found themselves in the same fix. Not a spear of green grass would appear after sweet clover and alfalfa was up 12 to 18 inches high. Such a condition of things was apt to prove the merits and demerits of the plant in question.

Well, to be short about it, I will say that the poor people with their one milch cow, went onto our country roads and got all the nice, green clover they wanted. Not only their cows, but also horses and hogs soon learned to relish the herb, and it proved to be a veritable blessing to a multitude of people.

We have an old saying, that a farmer will not eat unless he knows what it is. Yes, many of them will refuse the choicest of oysters. So with mellilot clover—I consider it the "oyster" among the forage plants—after a taste for it has been acquired by stock. For bee-keepers it is just "the thing"—at least in this section of our country.

Mellilot requires considerable curing when cut for hay, and salt should be used freely when it is stacked, but the hay is relished by cattle in particular.

Alfalfa, although excellent in its place, cannot compare with sweet clover here as a honey-producer, since it is always cut just about the time it begins to yield honey in profusion.

Further information about mellilot will be given with pleasure, if desired. Grand Island, Neb., Nov. 1.

[Yes, let us have all the information possible about sweet clover, and about any and every other plant that is valuable for its honey and for forage. We can't learn too much in this line.—EDITOR.]



Marketing Honey—Suggestion for the Union.

BY W. D. FRENCH.

I wish to call the attention of our bee-keeping friends to the ways and methods by which apiarists of California are subjected in the marketing of their crops.

It is a fact observable in every city and hamlet of this State, that there exists a combination, composed of those who buy honey, who establish the price thereon, regardless of what it is worth in New York, Chicago, or other Eastern cities, and compel those who must have ready cash, to accept one-half of its actual worth, and thus rob them of their money in daylight to satisfy their avaricious greed.

They will have the audacity to tell you that honey has declined one-half, or so many cents, when they see or hear of a nice lot of honey being sent in and they know it will be sold on their market.

A postal card written to me recently from a commission house of San Diego, which was in reply to a letter addressed to them, reads thus:

"We offer two carloads L. A. honey at 3.90. Profit on two cars 5 cents. Chance for spec.

"This explains the honey situation to-day.

"(Signed.)

N. & Co."

They presumably took me for a chump in quoting prices and informing me as to the situation of the honey market. This proposition works well in some cases, as a large number of the bee-keepers are really not informed on the price of their product.

Now, how are we to solve this problem by securing to the producing class an adequate amount for their product? It has occurred to me that the National Bee-Keepers' Union could step in and show its hand. To illustrate:

Suppose that in each locality a number of the Union members were stationed to receive all honey at a price established by said Union, and paid for when sold, except in cases where people must have ready cash, and where it became necessary in such cases the same to be paid from the funds of the Union.

It would be needless to say, if such a proceeding were in force, every bee-keeper in California would become a member, and thus greatly enlarge its funds and membership. The Union could establish a bureau, buy, ship, and sell, at a slight profit—enough to cover all expenses—and thus do away with all this sort of daylight robbery which prevails in this State.

I have only outlined the method which seems quite rational to me, and I hope others may share in a discussion upon this subject. I would particularly ask the attention of Mr. Thomas G. Newman, who, I trust, will speak as to the feasibility of this proposition. Foster, Calif.

The Swarming Habit—Breeding it Out.

BY BERT LOWNES.

(Continued from page 712.)

But why is it impossible to breed the swarming habit out of the bees?

1st. Because it is contrary to the laws of Nature.

2nd. Because of the fact that even though other things were equal, it would necessitate the co-operation of all the bee-keepers in a common effort to breed out the habit; and since the majority are opposed to it, that of itself would be impossible.

It is not an easy matter to breed pure Italians, and it would be next to an impossibility to breed Italians, or any other race exclusively—I mean for every bee-keeper on the face of the globe to breed Italians only, owing to the liability of the queens meeting drones of a different race, from the woods.

In the case of Italians, the queens can be tested in a comparatively short time, and, if not pure, replaced. It would not be so easy to test the non-swarming bees. The test, of course, would be the refusal of the bees to swarm.

Suppose we had a young queen that we wished to test. As it is the exception for a colony containing a young queen to cast a swarm the first season, there would be no chance whatever of judging of her purity until the next year, and owing to possible drouth, or some other drawback, our chances then would not be great, for even if the season were as good as the best, we could not be *certain* of her purity, even though her bees did not swarm for two or three years. By that time her usefulness would be about over; before that time, however, some of her drones would in all probability have met with some of the other queens, and in case she was not pure, the chances would be that the apiary would contain as many, or more of the swarming bees than the non-swarmers. These facts add, also, to the undesirability of breeding out the habit.

One might go to some isolated spot (another undesirable feature), where there are no bees whatever (?) within a hundred miles (and like enough no honey-plants, either), and be happy (?) because of the assurance that there would be no trouble caused by the interference of a neighbor's drones. Suppose he could? Would the in-breeding that is sure to follow such a procedure, be desirable?

"O that's easily remedied. We'd just have a few other bee-keepers remove to other isolated places, and we would exchange queens, and thereby be enabled to introduce new blood into our stock, and not be obliged to in-breed." But suppose it were possible to do such a thing, wouldn't it be a rather risky business, to introduce other queens into your apiary, for fear of their having *accidentally* met with a drone that still had the *swarming* blood in him?

"Yes, but we'd buy *tested* queens, though."

O! would you? We will suppose you would. If an Italian queen that can be tested in about three weeks' time can be purchased for \$1.00, what would be the price of a tested non-swarmers, that it would take three years to test? Would the price, or her age, render her undesirable? If a person were working to *prevent* swarming, he could, if he desired, introduce new blood each year, but in breeding out the swarming habit, this would not be permissible, for with each new queen introduced that colony is placed at the point from where you started to breed out the habit.

Are there any other reasons for believing that breeding out the swarming habit would be undesirable? Yes.

1st. As mentioned before, there could be no improvement in the bees by changing their natures contrary to the laws of Nature?

2nd. It would be impossible to make such a *great* change in the one hive, and leave the bees unchanged in other ways; and the chances are as ten to one, that the other changes wrought by the one great change would be undesirable ones.

3rd. The fact that the bees of queens which are not very prolific are not so much given to swarming as those of others, some would be led to select such queens in their efforts to breed out the habit?

4th. It would be undesirable to all those to whom "increase by dividing is undesirable."

Suppose A. had 100 colonies of bees of the non-swarming kind, and during the winter he should be so unfortunate as to lose 20 colonies. As his locality can support 100 colonies nicely, he would naturally wish to bring his apiary up to its former number, even though he should not wish to have 20 hives lying idly about. Being non-swarmers, of course he cannot allow a sufficient number to swarm to make up the loss, and although he is not exceptionally fond of "dividing,"

he is obliged to accept, and make the most of it, it being his only alternative.

If dividing is undesirable with "swarming" bees, it would be doubly so with non-swarmers. With the former, one can wait till his bees are near the swarming point, before proceeding, and probably be able to give one division a queen-cell while the other retains the queen. On the other hand, there would be no queen-cell for the non-swarmers, and the chances are that they, not having any desire to swarm, would not have nearly the amount of bees, brood, etc. Although one division may retain the queen, the other is obliged to rear one from the egg or larva, in either case not having a laying queen, it is safe to say in less than three weeks, and no hatching bees for three weeks more. This undesirable feature *might* be partially overcome by those who rear queens for sale, but that would not help others; besides, I think there would be some difficulty in having bees that know nothing of swarming, rear queens, and although this *might* lead some to a process of rearing queens from the egg artificially, that would not be desirable any more than that it would afford us the pleasure of knowing that it *could* be done.

5th. It would not be desirable for the simple reason that the majority do not *desire* it. Each year there are new hands at the business, whose greatest desire is to have their bees swarm.

Aside from the impossibility and undesirability of breeding out the swarming habit, it is *unnecessary* to do so. Since prevention of swarms is all that a person expects to accomplish by breeding out the habit, a practical plan of prevention is all that is necessary, and I think would be more desirable, because—

1st. It can be more easily accomplished.

2nd. It is necessary to prevent swarming before the habit can be bred out.

3rd. A person could introduce new blood as often as desirable without regard to pedigree and mating, any more than that the queen is an Italian, Carniolan, etc., properly mated.

4th. If he should lose a number of colonies during the winter, or if he should wish to increase his stock, he could allow a sufficient number of colonies to swarm to meet the demands.

As to the possibility of having a perfect plan of prevention, I have not the space to say anything further than that since it is a fact that a large hive will check swarming to a certain extent, and a hive well ventilated has the same tendency, and since a colony in which there is a young queen (less than a year old) *rarely* casts a swarm, I think that a judicious combination, so to speak, of these facts will, in practice, bring us as near perfection on the line of prevention as it is possible to come; and I might add, be as near to breeding out the swarming habit as it is possible to be.

Dr. Miller, perhaps, might think that because some people think it is possible to breed out the swarming habit, while others think it is impossible, that the question is to be forever unsettled; others however may think otherwise. As for me I don't think that what a man thinks has so much to do in deciding a question, as do his reasons for thinking as he thinks. I wonder if other people think as I think. If he, or any other, thinks that it is possible to breed out the swarming habit, and thinks he can prove it beyond a doubt, I think there would be quite a number willing to listen while he explains.

I will add that the most convincing proof would be, to produce a colony of bees that, notwithstanding all threats, entreaties, etc., would emphatically refuse to swarm. Then if the bees were no worse otherwise, it would also prove the desirability, except perhaps in the line of increasing, and keeping the breed pure, etc.

I know it is hard to tell what changes will take place, and in these days when electricity is doing so much in the line of improvements, it is not best to attempt it; still, I will venture to state, however, that the swarming habit will not be bred out of the bees in time to be of any benefit to Dr. Miller, or prove in any way disastrous to me. So as far as we are concerned, I think we may as well quit arguing.

Charter Oak, Iowa.

P. S.—Perhaps it will be noticed that in pointing out the impossibility of breeding out the swarming habit, I dwelt more on the impossibility of keeping a non-swarming race of bees pure, than on the impossibility of producing a non-swarming race; but I do not wish to be understood that way. I do not believe that it is possible to breed out the habit, because contrary to Nature; but even if it were possible, as far as Nature is concerned, there are other circumstances existing now that would render it impossible.

B. L.

Questions *AND* Answers.

CONDUCTED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.

[Questions may be mailed to the Bee Journal, or to Dr. Miller direct.]

Fumigating Brood-Combs.

Does it injure brood-combs to fumigate them with sulphur? That is, will they be distasteful to the bees another year? W. C.

ANSWER.—I've smoked them till all was blue, and the bees used them afterward all right.

Bees Packed for Wintering in a Building.

1. Would you advise wintering bees in a building well ventilated but not frost-proof, if the building were kept dark, and the bees packed with chaff cushions, as for out-door wintering?

2. Would it be desirable to leave the Miller feeder properly packed in place through the winter? R. R. Menomonee Fall, Wis.

ANSWERS.—1. I wouldn't advise bees being fastened in any place where they have no chance to fly out, unless such place is kept at a temperature of at least 40°, and generally a higher temperature. If there is communication with the outside air, so that the bees can fly whenever the weather is warm enough, then they might do all right.

2. I think it would do no harm, and might do good. I hardly suppose you can pile too much on top of a hive, and I doubt if enough is thought of the importance of keeping the top of a hive warm.

Wide-Frames and T Supers, Etc.

1. I have supers that hold 7 movable-frames, 4 sections to each wide-frame. Will bees store as much honey in them as in the T super with tin rests where sections can't be taken out when filled as with wide-frames?

2. Some of my friends claim that taking out a frame when filled and putting in one filled with foundation, will stop the bees from working for some time. Is it true? J. L. Sandwich, Ont.

ANSWERS.—1. I don't think the bees would notice the difference. The difference in supers is generally not a difference it makes to the bees, but a difference to the bee-keeper in handling. If you nail the sections solid into the supers so they can't be taken out without breaking, the bees would fill them just as well, but it wouldn't suit the bee-keeper. But I don't know how to manage T supers so the sections can't be taken out. I can take sections out of T supers more easily than out of wide-frames, and I've used wide-frames by the thousand.

2. That depends upon circumstances. If bees are getting a big flow of honey, they'd keep right on. If getting almost nothing, they would be very slow about starting on foundation.

Starting in Bee-Keeping.

Please tell what it should cost one to start with, say 10 colonies of bees, itemizing the articles. T. H. B. Marcuse, Calif.

ANSWER.—That's a hard one. Indeed, it's beyond me, for more than one reason. Prices of bees vary very much, in some places being two or three times as much as in others—yes, a good deal more difference than that. Again, it makes some difference whether you get an outfit for comb honey or extracted. But I can help you a little. I can give you some idea as to what you ought to have, then you can find out what

prices you can get the different items for, by consulting price-lists. The 10 colonies of bees you probably ought to get close by home, for you can easily send far enough for them so that the transportation shall be more than the cost of the stock. On the whole, I think I'll make out a list with prices, and although the prices may be somewhat out of the way you can correct by comparing with price-lists:

1 Text-Book on Bee-Keeping.....	\$1 25
1 Bee-Veil.....	50
1 Smoker.....	1 00
10 Colonies of Bees in good movable-frame hives	60 00
30 Supers, in flat, with separators.....	3 50
3,000 Sections.....	8 00
30 Pounds Surplus Foundation.....	15 00

Total.....\$89 25

I might safely say that by the time you've paid freight you may not have a great deal left out of a hundred-dollar bill. But as I said before, some of these prices may vary a good deal. You can get a good smoker for half the money I've mentioned, but at the end of a year it won't be very good, so it's better to pay more at the start.

I know it isn't very satisfactory to have an answer given, and then to be told you can put very little reliance on it, but unsatisfactory as the answer is, I've put a good deal more than the usual amount of thinking on it. If you'll send me something easier, I'll try real hard to select some better answers.

Hemp as a Honey-Plant.

I send you a sample of plant and its seed, that comes up of itself every year. It seems to be a great bee-plant, as the bees work on it early and late, and the hens are crazy for the seed. Will you kindly say what it is? and if it would pay to sow it in waste places? About what is the seed worth? The plant has a very disagreeable odor, especially in damp weather. It grows seven and eight feet tall, with wide spreading branches like a tree, and yields lots of seed.

Severance, N. Y.

Mrs. J. M.

ANSWER.—I'm not good at recognizing plants, but it happens that you send one with which I am familiar—hemp. You will find seed such as you enclose sold at the stores for canary birds. It might be well to scatter seed in waste-places and let it get a start. I don't know the value of the seed, but knowing the name you can inquire of any dealer in seeds and grains.

Let me call your attention to an interesting feature of the hemp plant. If you will look, at this time of the year, you will find plants still green bearing seed, and you will find others that are entirely dead. These dead plants have no seed on them, never had, and never can have. In the early part of the season they are flourishing enough. They are the staminate or male plants, and after they have furnished pollen for the pistillate plants, being of no further use, they die. The pistillate plants continue vigorous, and go on maturing the seed.

Southern Department.

CONDUCTED BY

DR. J. P. H. BROWN, AUGUSTA, GA.

[Please send all questions relating to bee-keeping in the South direct to Dr. Brown, and he will answer in this department.—Ed.]

The International Bee-Keepers' Congress.

This Congress will be held Dec. 4 and 5, during the Exposition now in progress at Atlanta, Ga., and it promises to be a large and representative body of bee-keepers from all parts of the United States. Excursion rates to the International Exposition at Atlanta are very low. Hotel and boarding-house rates have not been raised, but we are trying to get reduced hotel rates to bee-keepers and their families. Excursion tickets are on sale at Chicago, New York, and other Western and Northern cities.

The convention will be a business one—essays from some of the most successful honey-producers will be read, and questions involving the future prosperity of the bee-keeping industry will be considered.

Further information will be given those bee-keepers who

intend going to the convention, if they will write Dr. J. P. H. Brown, Augusta, Ga.

The Swarming Season and Theory.

There is such a thing as a swarming season. Bees do not swarm indiscriminately through the whole summer, even if the honey-flow is favorable. Where the honey-flow is short, the swarming season corresponds with it, and both take place together, hence the idea that the honey-flow is the cause of the swarming. That idea is incontestably true, but other causes play a part in the program.

In California, where the honey season lasts several months, the swarming occurs during the early part of it, and is over before the honey-flow has even begun. All the Californian writers are unanimous on that point.

Mr. Aikin, in his writings on removing queens to prevent swarming, said that in his former location the main honey-flow takes place in the fall of the year, and that he was not bothered by swarming. But when he moved in a location where the main honey-flow occurs in the early part of the season, the swarming question became a serious one, and he eventually came to the practice of removing queens to prevent swarming. In my locality, and with sufficient room in the hives, little, or very little, swarming takes place after June 1, however abundant the honey-flow may be.

Then, there is a swarming season during the early part of the summer, or rather during the spring. Why is it so, and what causes it?

Well, I suppose that Mr. Doolittle and Mrs. Harrison will say that it is a law of Nature, so that the swarms may have time to build up before winter. I guess they are right, but we must remember that Nature or the Creator, God himself, works through means, and that behind every effect we find a cause that produces it.

During the winter the bees are huddled close together in a compact cluster, the interior of which is at a normal temperature, while the space outside of it may be even below freezing. As the season advances, and the weather gets warmer, the cluster expands itself, brood-rearing begins, honey is brought in, but all the work done is only inside of the cluster, as the temperature is too low outside of it to admit of anything to be done. As the weather gets warmer the cluster becomes larger, and finally, when the summer is decidedly come (about June 1, in this locality), breaks up altogether, and the bees will be found at work through the whole hive.

In the above, I think we have the key of the situation. Just as long as the bees are confined to the cluster, they are cramped, and cramped badly, for space, and that lack of space causes them to swarm. That cluster, so far as they are concerned, and for all practical purposes, constitutes the real colony, no matter how large the hive proper may be. In fact, the larger the hive, the worse it is for being more difficult to keep warm, it necessarily compels the bees to cluster closer. Hence, the necessity of not giving too much space in the spring, and not putting on the surplus-cases too soon; hence, also, the fact that a large hive may not always prevent swarming during the early part of the season. A few years ago, one of our prominent apiculturists put a colony of bees, early in the spring, into a dry-goods box, and, seeing them swarm, hastily concluded that a large hive has nothing to do with swarming.

Little or no swarming takes place even in the spring when producing extracted honey. In that case empty combs are given to the bees, and all they have to do is to put the honey in. This can be done at a comparatively low temperature, and in a comparatively short time—perhaps a few hours in the warmest part of the day would be sufficient; while, when working for comb honey, it might not be possible for the bees to build the necessary comb, or even draw the foundation, for lack of sufficient warmth in the surplus apartments.

Now, don't misunderstand me. The point I want to make is, that a large hive will not always prevent swarming in the early part of the season, because, on account of lack of warmth, the bees occupy only the space of the cluster, or rather the combs that they can well cover, and therefore have not space enough, and this lack of space causes them to swarm.

Later on, the situation is altogether different. With real warm weather, the bees can work through the whole hive, and therefore have plenty of space if the hive is large enough. But if the hive is too small, they will swarm, no matter what time of the year it may be, provided, of course, that the honey-flow and other necessary conditions are favorable.

Of course, all this refers to bees under normal or ordinary circumstances. Exceptional cases must be explained by the exceptional circumstances that cause them.

THAT SWARMING THEORY.

A few months ago I advanced the theory that the swarming was the result of dissatisfaction caused by the animosity of the queen toward the queen-cells; and also that the construction of the queen-cells took place when the young bees had more larval food than the queen and the brood could consume.

As to the first part of the above explanation, I think few apiculturists will deny that the presence of the queen and queen-cells together is a necessary condition. Of course, bees and queen will sometimes swarm a day or two after the queen-cells have been destroyed by the apiarist, but nevertheless these queen-cells were the cause of the dissatisfaction and subsequent swarming. And it is probable that in the great majority of such cases, a queen-cell has been overlooked. Only those who have been practicing cutting cells to some extent, know how difficult, or even impossible, it is not to miss any. I had one built in the thickness of the comb. All that could be seen was a capping somewhat pitted, and of an appearance differing from the enveloping brood, but nobody would ever think that it was a queen-cell—at least, I didn't. But after the queen was out, and gone with a swarm, the hole she had cut to come out told the tale.

Of course bees will sometimes swarm, or rather abscond, from some other cause—excessive heat, being bothered by robbers, etc.—but in such cases they go without caring whether they have queen-cells or not.

Exceptional cases must be explained by the exceptional circumstances that causes them. For instance: Dr. Miller says he had one colony swarm without any brood, and only a single egg in the combs. Exactly why they swarmed "I don't know." I would suggest that they concluded that the Doctor was getting decidedly too meddlesome, and becoming a regular nuisance, and that it would be better to seek more congenial quarters, even if they had to abandon that unfortunate egg (see Dr. Miller's comments in "A B C of Bee-Culture").

As to the cause of the construction of queen-cells, I was perhaps rash in saying that they were constructed primarily for storing larval food, but I think I am right in saying that they are constructed when there is a surplus of larval food on hand, and they want to utilize it in some other way.

Excepting the case of loss or failure of the queen, queen-cells are constructed only when three conditions are present, viz.: 1st, a honey-flow; 2nd, a number of young bees; and, 3rd, the laying of queen restricted by either the lack of space (or rather, empty combs), or a failure in the fecundity of the queen. In the face of such conditions, I cannot see any other possible explanation of the construction of queen-cells than the one given above; but yet I only claim that it is the best I know, and I would gladly learn more about it.

Mr. Hasty says the antipathy between queens and queen-cells is a result of the hate between queens; and he thinks that if a queen tolerates a newly-constructed queen-cell, and attacks an old one, it is because when the larva has attained a certain age it begins to acquire the odor peculiar to the queen. I think this explanation is correct, and "explains" not only the case of queen vs. queen-cells, but also why when a queen-cell just capped is introduced in a strange colony, it is sometimes destroyed by the bees, while one ready to hatch is not. The last one has already the full scent of a queen, and is respected as such, while the immature one is, to them, only a piece of strange wax. Also, a queen (unless hindered by the bees) will never miss a queen-cell in a hive, no matter how irregular in shape it may be.

FINDING QUEENS—NECTAR-SECRETION.

A few weeks ago, I had visit from Mr. Sam Wilson, of Cosby, Tenn. We had a bee-keepers' convention of two, which was a real pleasure to me. Mr. Wilson, being situated about 14 miles from the railroad, and having but an insignificant local market, prefers to produce extracted honey. He uses the Heddon hive in preference to all others, and says that he finds no particular trouble in taking the frames out and putting them back. They are easy to uncap. The knife is placed across, and slides through the length of the comb, being supported by the bottom and top bars. After one or two uncappings, the combs gets perfectly regular.

To find the queens, he lays the hive on a cover, or other board wide enough, blows some smoke between the combs, and lifts the hive. The queen is found on the board. If the brood-nest is composed of more than one section, each section is treated separately.

He thinks that for each kind of tree or plant to yield honey, or rather nectar, there is a time when a certain amount of moisture in the ground is necessary. In this locality, and in most of the United States, November for the

sourwood, and November, or rather December, for the basswood, etc. His idea is, that the nectar is (partially at least) found in the ground before going up into the plant, and that unless there is rain, or rather moisture, in the ground at the necessary time to form it, the plant cannot yield any, no matter how favorable the weather may be later on. I give his views for whatever they may be worth.

Knoxville, Tenn., Oct. 9.

ADRIAN GETAZ.

Notes AND Comments.

CONDUCTED BY

Rev. Emerson T. Abbott, St. Joseph, Mo.

Langstroth on the Honey-Bee.—"I am happy to learn from my friend, Mr. Langstroth, that a new edition of his work on the Hive and the Honey-Bee is called for; I consider it by far the most valuable treatise on these subjects, which has come under my notice."—Rev. Robert Baird, in "Introduction" to the third edition of "Langstroth."


Just now it seems a fitting thing to recall the attention of the readers of the Bee Journal to this valuable publication. Modern apiculture owes a debt of gratitude to Langstroth, for the hive he gave to the world, which it can never pay, but it owes him equally as much, if not more, for the book he wrote in order to make his hive and method of manipulation known. Many good books have been written since on bee-culture, but Langstroth yet remains the book on the subject, and one which no bee-keeper can afford not to own. It marked the beginning of scientific apiculture in America, and blazed the way for all that has come after it.

Almost every industry and department of learning dates back to some individual who was an original investigator, and paved the way for the knowledge and progress of future generations. History and Geography had their Herodotus; Medicine had its Hippocrates; Astronomy had its Copernicus; Evolution had its Darwin; Botany had its Linnaeus; Biography had its Plutarch; and American Apiculture had its Langstroth. While the world has made great progress since any of these men lived and wrote, yet one is surprised, when he makes a careful study of the results of their investigations, to see how little there is that is absolutely new in later works. Especially is this true with regard to apiculture. Methods of manipulation have changed somewhat since Rev. L. L. Langstroth first wrote his book, and we are a little more certain about some things which were only held as a theory by this learned, practical pioneer of bee-culture; yet one need not go far astray who will study thoroughly and carefully the teachings of the first edition of his masterly and fascinating work. The moment one begins to read he feels himself in sympathy with the writer, and he is held to the subject with all the fascination of a story, by his clear-cut sentences and easy-flowing diction. I may say in a word that "Langstroth on the Honey-Bee" reads like a story, and is at the same time so authoritative and reliable that the reader feels that it is absolutely free from every taint of fiction.

In this respect the last edition is no improvement on the first, but its revision by those eminently practical and successful apiarists—"The Dadants"—has brought it down to date, and placed it *en rapport* with the scientific apiculture of today. This, as I suggested before, makes it absolutely necessary to every one who would be abreast of the times in modern apiculture. With no intention to disparage other works, or to detract from their value, I will say that I look upon the "Revised Langstroth" as the cheapest and best book on the subject of apiculture published in America.

Dzierzon in Germany and Langstroth in America wrought a revolution in apiculture. Langstroth made a step in advance of the noted German and gave the world, as the result of original investigation, a book—Langstroth on the Hive and Honey-Bee—which furnished to all future writers on the subject the essential facts which they have embodied in their works; so that he who owns the last edition of "Langstroth" comes very near having the alpha and omega of modern apiculture.

[The above book is found in the book-list often printed in the Bee Journal. Its price is \$1.40, postpaid; or clubbed with the Bee Journal for one year—both for only \$2.10. Better order a copy of "Langstroth on the Honey-Bee," when renewing your subscription.—EDITOR.]



 George W. York, - - Editor.

 PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY

 GEORGE W. YORK & COMPANY,

 58 Fifth Avenue, - CHICAGO, ILL.

 \$1.00 a Year—Sample Copy Sent Free.

 [Entered at the Post-Office at Chicago as Second-Class Mail-Matter.]

Vol. XXXV. CHICAGO, ILL., NOV. 14, 1895. No. 46.

Editorial Budget.

An International Bee-Congress has been announced several times in the Bee Journal, to be held at Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 4 and 5. It occurs while the great Southern Exposition is in full blast. Dr. J. P. H. Brown, of Augusta, Ga., the conductor of the Southern Department of the Bee Journal, has the matter in charge, and can give you any particulars about it that you may wish to know. It will be a fine opportunity for the bee-keepers of the South to get together and discuss matters of interest to the pursuit in that mellifluous portion of our great country.

Reports Encouraging and Discouraging. Gleanings says, were about equally divided for August and the forepart of September, but lately there seemed to be more of the encouraging sort. Good fall honey-flows have been reported in many parts of the country, which made feeding unnecessary.

The Minnesota Apiarian Exhibit at the State Fair, held at Hamline, in September, was very creditable to Minnesota bee-keepers, as the season had not been promising for fine honey. The Farm, Stock and Home says that the display of comb and extracted honey, beeswax, cookery in which honey was used instead of sugar, honey-vinegar, etc., was certainly the best yet made in Minnesota. Wm. Urie and Dr. Jacques, of Hennepin; Mr. Howe, of Olmstead; Mr. Theilmann, of Wabasha; Mr. Turnbull, of Houston; Mr. Aldrich, of Rice; and Wm. Bright, of Wabasha, were all prize-takers. Dr. Jacques spent the summer of 1893 at a Forestville apiary, learning to produce fine comb honey, and the proof of his success was an exhibit of three cases of comb honey, on which he took two first and one second premium, for perfection of capping and general finish and shipping quality. Mrs. Wm. Urie, as usual, took first premium for cookery and canning in which honey entered in place of cane-sugar.

Advertising the Honey-Business.—During the first 19 days of last month (October), there was held in Chicago the second annual Pure Food Show, in one of the buildings with large ground floor space. This space was divided, and the use of it sold to prospective exhibitors.

Mr. J. A. Lamon—one of Chicago's prominent honey-dealers—put in an exhibit of honey, and kept a young lady in charge of it during the whole time of the Show. The use of the space occupied cost him \$100, and this together with

other expenses, including the honey samples given away to the thousands who visited the various exhibits during the nearly three weeks of the Pure Food Show, amounted to an outlay of about \$200.

Samples of extracted honey were given out on crackers about an inch and a half in diameter. The lady in attendance kept a tumbler of honey on the counter, and with a teaspoon dipped a good, big taste of honey on the cracker, which was then handed to the visitor, who ate the whole thing with evident relish. About 5 gallons of extracted honey per day was thus given away. It was a splendid method of introducing pure honey.

Mr. Lamon's representative also took orders for honey all the time, and sold quite a good deal of both comb and extracted, in regular grocery style.

I might say here, that each exhibitor had put up a neat canvas booth, with a counter extending around the outside, thus enclosing a small space wherein the attendant stood, and also where the supplies were kept.

A very attractive feature of Mr. Lamon's pure honey exhibit, was a fine colony of bees in a glass hive, placed on the counter where all could see it. It is almost needless to say that there was a good-sized crowd of city folks around the bees all the time. And many were the exclamations of surprise at the (to them) wonderful sight. And more were the questions asked.

To make the bee and honey part of the Show still more interesting and fascinating, Mr. Lamon offered three prizes for guessing the number of bees in the hive. Everybody was free to put in their guess, and there were some 8,000 who did so. The first prize offered was \$10; 2nd, \$5; and the 3rd, One Dozen Jars of Lamon's Pure Honey. The result of the "guessing contest" was as follows: Fred Bennett, of Chicago, received the 1st prize, his guess being, 40,055 bees. Miss Nettie Watson, of Jackson, Mich., and Rose Lowenstein, T. L. Penny, A. S. Purrington, and C. J. Ratcliff, of Chicago, all guessed 40,000, entitling each to a share of the 2nd prize. The third prize went to Fred H. Tischell, of Chicago, who guessed 40,323. The number of bees in the hive was 40,050.

Since the Pure Food Show closed, one of the largest general merchandise stores here has begun a similar exhibition in its own store. It began Tuesday, Nov. 5, I believe, and there were two exhibiting and selling honey.

I do not know of a better way to get people to use honey, than to follow the above plan whenever and wherever possible. Every grocery store throughout the country should keep honey before its customers, and call attention to it by giving "free tastes." People usually want to know in advance what they are buying.

A letter received from Mr. Lamon, dated Oct. 15, 1895, has this to say concerning his effort to advertise and introduce honey:

MR. GEO. W. YORK—Dear Sir:—I think (or have learned, rather) that extracted honey is hardly more than introduced to the consumers, and if the method I have adopted at the Pure Food Show were practiced throughout the country (especially in large cities), it would be a matter of a short time before it would teach the people what the article really is, and educate them to distinguish between pure and adulterated honey.

The teachers of the city kindergartens are interested, and from me have obtained wax, comb-cells, honey, etc., to demonstrate to the children the habits of the honey-bees, their uses, etc.

We have, I think, the most interesting and instructive exhibition in the hall, and we sample out from 3 to 5 gallons of honey a day. The advertisement we get from it will, we figure, repay us handsomely, and the direct benefit honey and wax will receive therefrom is beneficial. J. A. LAMON.

I feel quite sure that on account of Mr. Lamon's enterprising efforts, honey will be called for much more frequently hereafter at most of the 5,000 grocery stores here in Chicago.

And then the demand will be increased, for grocers will soon order a supply of what their customers want. Once get the people in the habit of ordering honey with their other groceries, and soon it is going to require a large amount of honey to supply the demand. But in order to hold the family trade after getting it worked up, grocers *must* be sure to sell only pure honey, and that which is of the better grades. The glucosed stuff must be discontinued, and all insist upon getting pure honey only.

Jake Smith has another "letter" in *Gleanings* for Nov. 1. It has been a long time since Jake has been heard from. He ought to change his name to "Rip Van Winkle." Who is Jake Smith, anyway? Where does he live? He seems to be afraid to give his address. I don't believe anybody by that name takes the *Bee Journal*. But it's just as well, for he couldn't read it if he did. Why, the fellow can't spell! I should think *Gleanings* would send him a spelling-book and a "primary" dictionary, to start with.

Preparing Colonies for Winter.—That expert apiarist and helpful writer on the subject of bee-culture—Mr. B. Taylor, of Minnesota—gives in the *Farm, Stock and Home*, the following directions for preparing bees for their wintering in the cellar:

There are many ways of fixing the hives for winter, but doubtless the cheapest plan is to leave on the board hive-covers sealed down tight, but with the bottom-boards entirely removed. The first tier of hives should be set eight inches apart, and the next tier be set on top of these, and directly over the space between each two hives; the next in the same way on top of these, until as high as wanted. Another good way is to cover the hives warmly with quilts or building-paper fastened down tight to the hive with strips of lath or other wood, the bottom-boards to remain on, but the hives to be raised at least one inch above it by strips of wood. My own hives have an entrance the entire width of the hive in front and rear. I leave both thus fully open, and it seems to answer all purposes.

From Nov. 1 to 15 is the proper time to put the bees into winter quarters in this climate.

Superstition.—"Among the peasants of Livonia the genuine bee-keeper never pronounces the word 'bee,' as he believes the expression would inevitably bring misfortune on his apiary. He always speaks of them as 'forest birds,' and however frequently and severely he may be stung, he bears the pain with mute, stoical fortitude; never giving utterance to his feelings, for fear he should offend his 'forest birds!'"—*American Bee Journal*, Vol. 1, 1861.

Symposiums are to be a feature of *Gleanings* in the future—something like the *Review* was in its first few volumes.

Among the Bee-Papers

Gleaned by Dr. Miller.

FATHER LANGSTROTH IS DEAD.

Dear, old Father Langstroth, so long the idol of bee-keepers, has passed away. Death came Sunday, Oct. 6, in the form of apoplexy, while he was preaching at a church in Dayton, Ohio, where he lived. In a long talk that he and I had at Toronto he referred so feelingly to the wife of his youth—not a day of the long 20 years since she was called hence that he has not thought of her and longed to be with her again. Now they are together. "The grand old man" was the title given him reverently by admiring friends, and never was a title more deserved. A grander, truer man I never knew. Long will his memory be green in the hearts of bee-keepers and friends.—*Review Editorial*.

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

E. E. Hasty says in *Review*: "This paper deserves a good word for the way it has kept up its interest of late. Several other papers have done fairly well; but it rather seems to me that for the current year this one deserves first prize." And Editor Hutchinson says: "The *American Bee Journal* receives high but well-deserved praise at the hand of our friend Hasty this month. If there is a hustler in our ranks it is Bro. York."

But what reckless individuals those two H.'s are, to run the chance of being mobbed by the "Anti-Mutuals!"

WILL BEES HAVE COMB BUILT DOWN TO THE BOTTOM-BAR?

A certain person of the female persuasion for a long time continuously cast a gloom over my life by insisting that no matter how successful I might be in getting combs built down to the bottom-bar, the bees would in time open up a passage-way there. Finally, I showed her the answers to Query 989, and considered her "settled." Now comes to her "aid and comfort," in *Review*, from the gentleman with the rapid name, who each month saves the name "Review" from being a misnomer, who discourses thusly:

"Pears like my name ought to be Joseph—leastwise I feel strongly inclined to 'teach the senators wisdom.'" Query 989 in the *American Bee Journal* Question-Box is whether bees will open a passage over the bottom-bar after it has been closed up once. Nearly all say "No," and only two frankly say that they will. Now I have the impudence to "yawp" right out that the crowd are clearly wrong, and the lean minority right. Of course they have all transferred comb from boxes to frames, and have examined the frames after the bees had fixed them up, and remember that there was no gnawing at the bottom. This perfectly sound fact—this little knowledge which is a dangerous thing—has misled them. They just didn't follow on to notice that little by little, year after year, the comb next the bottom-bar grew lean and disappeared. I plumply don't believe that six out of 26 can show any number of transferred or inverted combs that have been in use seven years in the brood-chamber only, and now in any other condition than the usual one—that is, with a bee-space above the bar for at least half way across.

Another fact also misleads: Most of the said "senators" have lots of extra combs for the extracting-supers; and they are nicely fastened to the bottom-bar, those not so originally soon becoming so. It is not in the super but in the brood-chamber that this gradual mischief transpires. And the question, "What can bees want a second bee-space there for?" also helps to mislead. The fact is, they do not want it. It is not on account of the passage, but on account of the everlasting call for just a little more wax to cap the brood with, and because it's so handy to go down to the bottom of the comb and pinch off a little there.

AFFLICTED EDITORS.

E. R. Root has been "under the weather" a good share of the past summer; I have been far from well the past summer, at one time being confined to my bed; and when I learned that R. F. Holtermann had had a severe attack of heart failure, followed soon after by typhoid fever, I was on the point of writing Bro. York that if he expected to be "one of us" he must contract some sort of an ill, when a postal came from him saying that he was sick in bed with tonsillitis. I guess we will all feel better when it comes cool weather.—October *Review*.

SPRING PACKING OF BEES.

Last year an extensive experiment in the packing of bees during the spring months was made, with a view of determining whether any benefit was to be derived from such protection, or, to put it in another way, whether the warmth retained by the packing more than counterbalanced the sun heat shut out by it. The result proved the packing to be disastrous for a spring of the character of that of 1894, with bees in the condition those used for that experiment were in during that time. Many of the colonies were weak in numbers and some of them not in the best of health. The spring losses were disproportionately large, and the colonies that survived did not do so well as did those without any protection.

The importance of the matter prompted me to repeat the experiment the present spring, but on a much smaller scale, since I had become satisfied in my own mind that at the best it could not prove very profitable. Twelve colonies were

selected for the purpose, a history of whose condition, reaching back to the preceding fall and up to the time when the packing was removed, June 12, was carefully kept. Some of the colonies showed more or less signs of having voided excrement during winter, before removed from the cellar, but after their first spring flight I considered them to be in excellent health and of considerably more than the average strength for the season. So far as the rearing of brood was concerned, all the colonies were substantially alike when the packing was done, which was effected as soon as they were thoroughly settled after removal from the winter quarters. At that time brood-rearing was only fairly begun, there being capped brood in each, covering a comb space of eight or ten square inches, and young brood and eggs covering a space equal to about one-half a Langstroth frame. The 12 colonies were divided equally into two lots of six each as impartially as possible, that the two lots might be as nearly alike as possible in all respects. Before doing this the colonies were again weighed, this time and the subsequent time the bottom-board of each being included. As will be seen, the advantage in the division was slightly with the lot packed both in the average strength as well as in the total weight. A table is given here-

COLONIES PACKED.

No. of colony.	Relative strength.	Signs of excrement in spring.	Weight fall, lbs.	Weight spring, lbs.	Weight April 15th, lbs.	Weight June 12th, lbs.	Am't of brood June 12th, N. W. Heddon frame.
1	6	some.	45	35	285½	39½	7
2	7	none.	62½	46¾	45	49	8½
3	7	none.	60¾	44¾	40½	47¾	10½
4	7	much.	58¾	34	51¾	52¾	10
5	7	none.	54	47	40¾	43¾	5
6	10	none.	70¾	55¾	55¾	63¾	10
Total	43		361¼	270¾	286¾	297	54
Average	7.16		60.21	45.10	47.71	49.5	9

COLONIES NOT PACKED.

No. of colony.	Relative strength.	Signs of excrement in spring.	Weight fall, lbs.	Weight spring, lbs.	Weight April 15th, lbs.	Weight June 12th, lbs.	Am't of brood June 12th, N. W. Heddon frame.
7	5	none.	47¾	36¾	295¾	37¾	7
8	6	a little.	65	50¾	53¼	49¾	8
9	6	"	46½	37¾	38¾	41¾	8½
10	7	"	54¾	44½	44¾	50¾	10
11	7	none.	53¾	47	46	45¾	9
12	10	a little.	62¾	49	49¾	47¾	12
Total	41		327¾	267¾	272	272	54½
Average	6.83		54.54	44.54	45.33	45.33	9.04

with showing the condition of each colony in detail at different times, including the weights and amount of brood at the time the packing was removed, shortly before the middle of the present month.

In order to make the experiment a crucial one for bees under like conditions during a spring of like characteristics, the greatest care was taken in attending to all the details. A platform was placed under each of the colonies to be packed, to effectually prevent the packing material from attracting any moisture from the earth. Each one was surrounded with a box of such size as to allow a space of two inches between it and the hive in front, and from three to four inches at the rear, on the sides and on the top, planer shavings freshly made from dry pine lumber were used, packed moderately hard, for filling these spaces.

The table largely explains itself. Advantageous results are shown in two ways, viz., by increased weight and by the larger amount of brood. In the latter respect the difference is hardly appreciable, but that difference though less than one-half of one per cent. in favor of the colonies without spring protection. In the former point the colonies not packed just hold their own, while those packed show an average gain of about two and three-fourths pounds, so we may set it down as the net advantage of packing in this experiment that it effected a saving of two and three-fourths pounds of honey per colony, though the force of the conclusion is much weakened by the fact that one of the six colonies gained nearly two-thirds of the total 16¾ pounds gain. On the other hand that protection effected some saving is rendered tolerably certain by the fact that each of the protected colonies made at least a little gain while all except two of those without protection lost in weight. But granting that two and three-fourth pounds of honey saved is a fair exponent of the advantage to be derived from spring protection, what shall the verdict be with regard to the policy of giving such protection? At best this would be barely sufficient to pay for the labor of packing and unpacking the colonies, leaving nothing to recompense the procuring and storing of material. Taking this into account and the result would show a considerable percentage of loss in the operation. But circumstances might perhaps be easily changed so as to put an entirely different face upon the matter. The colonies used in the present experiment are in a place pretty well protected from cold winds, which is a condition to be reckoned with. If this protection were wanting,

spring packing might prove very profitable. Whatever the event may prove to be with regard to packing I am strongly impressed with the idea, from my experience in this line last year and this, that the value of the spring sunshine is not appreciated as it deserves to be.—Hon. R. L. TAYLOR, in *Bee-Keepers' Review*, June 24, 1895.

Canadian Beedom.

Phenol Cure for Foul Brood.

On page 706, I. W. Beckwith says he has had some experience with foul brood, but has not tried phenol, nor will he until he gets more encouragement than I have given him to do so. What more encouragement can I give him than to assert that, properly used, it is an effective remedy? He quotes me very unfairly by merely giving my statement that all those who tried the phenol cure on its first appearance failed to make it a success. Why did he not add the reason I gave for their failure? Reason enough, surely. The bees never took the medicine. It was a case like that of the carpenter who was ill with inflammation of the lungs. The doctor prescribed a blister to be put on his chest. His wife put the blister on his tool-chest. So bee-keepers who tried phenol at first were content with putting it in the hive, whereas it is indispensable to a cure that the bees consume it.

I said this cure was "scientific," and gave as proof that carbolic acid is the most powerful antiseptic known to the medical world. Is it any disproof of that statement for Mr. Beckwith to say, "'Scientific' is a term nearly synonymous with 'humbug,' when used in relation to patent medicine and patent rights?"

Mr. Beckwith thinks the drug may kill both the microbe and the spore, but asserts that every cell in the hive which has ever contained the diseased larvæ or foul honey contains the germ of the disease. There is no germ of the disease outside of the microbe and the spore. If these are killed the disease is cured. Every cell in the hive will be disinfected after the destruction of the microbes and the spores.

Mr. Beckwith has never tried phenol, and yet asserts that both Mr. Cheshire and Mr. Clarke are deceived. Is he warranted in saying this without trial? This is the way many deal with Christianity itself, which says to each and all, "Try me." "No," such reply, "Christians are deceived."

There is no difficulty, as he supposes, about using phenol during a moderate honey-flow. At about the 500 ratio bees will consume the medicated syrup, and that is strong enough to effect a cure. As a preventive of foul brood, fed in early spring, this remedy is cheap, easy and effective. Try it and be convinced.

WM. F. CLARKE.

Guelph, Ont., Nov. 4.

Vicious Bees.

A North of England bee-keeper tells the *Journal of Horticulture* that he has never in his life found bees so vicious as they have been during the past season. Whether it was on account of the wet weather hindering him from being among the hives as much as usual, or from the abundance of honey, he does not know, but whenever he went near them the enraged bees would soon cover him.

This reads like an apocryphal kind of story. It does not accord with the usual laws of bee-life. In wet weather bees are chary of going out-of-doors, and when there is an abundance of honey, they are apt to be good-natured, and are far too busy in minding their own business to pay much attention to visitors. This bee-keeper must have been in a bad fix. The enraged bees would cover him, he says. If they were enraged they would surely sting. And this state of things characterized a whole season! Most bee-keepers enjoy being among their bees, listening to their cheerful music, and watching them at work. But this one found apiary only another name for purgatory.

Bee-Keepers and Apiarists.

A bee-keeper is one who keeps bees. An apiarist is one who understands the nature and habits of bees, knows how to manage them, is constantly studying their ways, and keeps a vigilant watch over all things affecting their welfare. I am

continually surprised at finding people who are trying to keep bees without giving themselves the least trouble to learn the business in which they are engaged. They have no apicultural manual to consult when any difficulty arises. They do not take a bee-journal, and therefore get no suggestive hints. They are "going it blind." This is the great source of failure. It is the same in other occupations. A man starts at storekeeping. He is ignorant of goods, markets, and the wants of customers. Before long, he is sold out.

The great cause of agricultural depression to-day is ignorance of the foundation principles of farming. Any fool can grow crops while the richness of a virgin soil lasts. But to keep that soil up to its primitive fertility, and get as good crops when the land has been tilled for half a century as were yielded at first, is another matter.

In a recent number of the Kansas Farmer, a man told how he raised 64 bushels of wheat to the acre. First year, cabbages with 60 tons of barnyard manure per acre. Second year, potatoes with no manure. Third year, 64 bushels of wheat with no manure. With such a yield wheat would give a living profit even a 50 cents a bushel.

It is absurd for people to embark in a business they know nothing about, and then when they fail abuse the business. They should kick themselves. The complaint we hear so often that farming doesn't pay is a confession of incompetency. It is the same with bee-keeping. No one abuses the business who is an apiarist, and not merely a bee-keeper.

Bee-Keeping for Ministers.

Many ministers have insufficient incomes, that need supplementing either by home missionary grants or imitation of the apostle Paul's example, who said: "These hands have ministered to my necessities and them that were with me." As an expedient in the way of self-help, bee-keeping is worthy of consideration. It is not hard physical work, nor does it require an exhaustive putting forth of brain-power. It gives gentle exercise in the open air, brings into contact with the forces and beauties of nature, and is a most interesting, fascinating study. A recent writer on the subject calls it "the pleasant occupation of tending bees."

Bee-keeping is, moreover, quite a clerical pursuit. Some of the most distinguished apiarists have been ministers. Langstroth, Dzierzon, Quinby, Harbison, Miner, Mahin and others are all familiar and noted names of clerical bee-keepers. The late Rev. J. Vogeler, Missionary to the Indians at Moravian Town, Ont., stated in a letter published in the Canada Farmer of Feb. 1, 1864, that in 1843 he obtained a swarm of bees from a hollow tree in the woods, and the profits from that wild swarm had, in 20 years, paid for a farm of 219 acres of land. Not to multiply instances, the following

capital story, copied from the Mark Lane Express, the leading agricultural journal in Great Britain, doubly bears on the matter in hand, being at once an example of clerical and profitable bee-keeping:

A bishop was holding his first visitation of the clergy in his diocese in a town in one of the Midland counties. Among those assembled he soon discovered an old college acquaintance whom he had not seen for a great number of years, but whom he greeted with all the warmth of a renewed friendship. On comparing notes with his friend, the bishop learned with regret that he was still a curate in a country village, at a stipend of a hundred pounds a year, and that he had a wife and large family to support. The worthy curate, however, invited the bishop to spend a day with him before he left the neighborhood, and the latter, not wishing to appear proud, accepted the invitation.

On reaching the parsonage, he was surprised to find his friend's wife an elegantly dressed lady, who received him without any of the embarrassment which a paucity of means is apt to occasion in those who feel its pressure. The children, also, were all well dressed and looked like anything rather than as having suffered in any way from the pinch of poverty.

But the good bishop's surprise was still greater when he sat down to partake of a repast, little short of sumptuous in all its appointments. Knowing that his friend was originally a poor man, he considered that he must have received a fortune with his wife. After, therefore, the latter and the children had withdrawn, the bishop expressed a fear that his friend had gone to an injurious expense to entertain him, and that it would entail privation upon him afterward. "Not at all," replied the curate; "I can well afford to entertain an old friend once in a while without inconvenience."

"Then," rejoined the bishop, "I must congratulate you. I suppose, on having received a fortune with your good lady?"

"You are wrong again, my lord," replied the poor curate.

More mystified than ever, the bishop resumed: "Then how is it possible for you to have those comforts around you that I see, out of a hundred a year?"

"Oh, my lord, as to that, I am a large manufacturer as well as a clergyman, and employ many operatives, which bring me in an excellent living. If you will walk with me to the back of the premises, I will show you them at work."

He accordingly took him into the garden, and showed him at the back of the house a large and splendid apiary, the source of the curate's prosperity.

The bishop never forgot the circumstance, nor did he ever fail to make use of it as an argument and example, for when he afterwards heard some poor curate complain of the scantiness of his income, he would cut the matter short by exclaiming, "There, there; let's have no more grumbling. Keep bees, like Mr. ——. Keep bees! KEEP BEES!"

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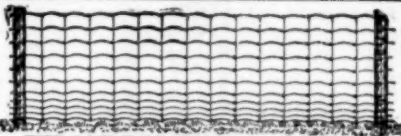
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General Items.

Appeal to Wisconsin Bee-Keepers.

Some of you have seen the report of N. E. France, in Gleanings for June, regarding the efforts that were made by the Southwestern Wisconsin and the Wisconsin State Bee-Keepers' Association to get the passage of a foul brood law providing a foul brood inspector for Wisconsin. Mr. France expended \$25 in railroad fare and expenses while working to get the bill passed. The bill, as you know, was lost; but we as bee-keepers feel that we must not give up until we have accomplished our purpose of getting a law for our State similar to the Canadian law. We must have money with which to pay the expenses of Mr. France, and for a fund to provide for future expenses in pushing this matter through the legislature.

We therefore appeal to every bee-keeper and supply dealer in our State, or interested therein, to send your contributions for this purpose to N. E. France, Treasurer of the Wisconsin State Bee-Keepers' Association, Platteville, Wis., on or before Jan. 1, 1896; and if there are any who are unable to give us financial support, we ask you to write a letter to Mr. France, showing your desire to have this law passed, which is of such importance as a protection to our chosen pursuit. (Signed.)

F. WILCOX,

President Wis. State B.-K. Association.

H. LATHROP,

Secretary Wis. State B.-K. Association.

N. E. FRANCE,

President S. W. Wis. B.-K. Association.

M. M. RICE,

Secretary S. W. Wis. B.-K. Association.

Favors the Five-Banded Bees.

It has been a very poor season here in eastern Maine—in fact, the poorest I have known in the 16 years I have kept bees.

Mr. A. Norton, in Gleanings for Oct. 15, calls for fair play in regard to 5-banded bees, and wants all to give public testimony. With me they have proved to be the best bees I ever owned, all things considered, and I have given them quite an extensive trial. Some say the queens are not prolific, bees are cross, great robbers, and other "hard names."

In the spring of 1894 I bought ten 5-banded queens with a pound of bees with each queen, from a Texas breeder; also ten 2-frame nuclei colonies of the same breeder, and two 4-frame nuclei of an Ohio breeder—all of them 5-banded stock. The one-pound lots gave me from 20 to 50 pounds of comb honey; the two-frame lots gave me from 30 to 80 pounds of honey; one-half of both lots swarmed; the four-frame nuclei gave me 75 for one and 80 pounds for the other, and both swarmed. A full colony of 3-banded bees, that did not swarm, gave me 30 pounds of comb honey the same season.

In many cases where 5-banded bees have been condemned, I think they have not had a fair trial. In all cases where I have received queens by mail they have not come up to the standard for prolificness. Those bought in nuclei colonies have done extra well, but the queens I rear myself, under the swarming impulse, are the best. Some of the young queens reared from the 5-banded stock proved to be the most prolific queens I ever owned. In regard to wintering qualities, I do not find much difference. I winter my bees in the cellar.

J. E. GINN.

Ellsworth, Maine, Oct. 19.

Ants, Skunks, Laying-Workers, Etc.

I think that my bees, and, in fact, all of the bees in this section of the country for miles around, gathered a good deal of honey-dew the fall of 1894, consequently a good many colonies died or were greatly reduced in numbers. When we put them

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out in the spring there were but few bees in the hives.

Last fall I put into my cellar 98 colonies, and on the first of last June I had but 54 colonies left: some of those left their hives, and some I doubled up. Some bee-keepers here lost all of their bees.

My bees did not swarm at all last summer, and I have heard of but two swarms anywhere in this section of the country. I run 11 colonies for extracted honey, and got only 225 pounds. Then I had on my 1,200 sections, and got only 10 pounds of comb honey. I now have 40 of my best colonies to be put into the cellar for another year.

I have kept bees for about 50 years; if I live, I think that next year will be the last that I shall keep bees. When they swarm, and alight in large trees, it is almost impossible for me to get them, as I am too feeble and old. I have now passed my 85th year. I like to work among the bees. I am an old subscriber to the American Bee Journal. I took it when published in Philadelphia, and nearly all the time when published in Washington, and since in Chicago.

We are having a very dry time. We have had but little rain for a year and five months. Some that have dug wells say the ground is as dry down 7 or 8 feet as it is on the top.

I will now give a little of my experience with ants, skunks and laying-worker bees. It may be nothing new, but may benefit somebody.

ANTS.—Some times I have been troubled with ants. They live in little mounds. I then follow their trail to the mound, and dig a hole in it that will hold 3 or 4 quarts of water. Then get a pailful of boiling water and pour it in the hole in the mound. That will kill the most of them. Then I get a few stalks of tansy, and put some on the honey-boards, and some on the ground around the hive. They will leave the hive.

SKUNKS.—Some years ago I was troubled with skunks. In the morning I would find several of the short pieces of board in front of the hives knocked down. I would get an egg, break a hole in the small end, and put in a little pulverized strychnine. Mix it in the egg. That kills them very quickly. I never had one get more than two rods from where they ate the egg, and they never leave any of their perfumery.

LAYING-WORKERS.—I had at one time two colonies that had laying-workers. I worked at times for two months before I could get a queen in either hive, or a queen-cell. The bees would destroy them every time. Three years ago I had five colonies that had them. My hives are all numbered. For instance, No. 1 had a laying-worker. About noon, when the bees were flying quite thick, I would select a strong colony; for instance, No. 10. I would set No. 10 where No. 1 stood, and No. 1 where No. 10 was. The bees would kill the laying-workers in a short time. I got rid of five laying-workers in one afternoon in that way.

WM. C. WOLCOTT.

Eldorado, Wis., Oct. 23.

The Southwestern Wis. Convention.

The Southwestern Wisconsin Bee-Keepers' Association met at the residence of E. France & Son, Platteville, Wis., Oct. 8 and 9, 1895. The meeting was called to order by the President, N. E. France. The attendance was not as good as usual, on account of the failure of the honey crop in this part of the country. Many were detained at home to feed their bees for winter, and many felt they could not afford to go. Although the attendance was small, we had a very interesting meeting.

The question-box was an interesting feature of the convention, and many questions were asked and discussed, and many new ideas brought out.

There was a good display of bee-fixtures, such as hives, extractors, feeders, foundation mills, comb foundation, bees and honey, and many other things that go to make up a good exhibit. There were pre-



Rev. R. W. Bland, Mrs. M. B. Carse, Pres. W. O. T. U. (Chicago), Prof. W. D. Parker, River Falls, Wis., Prof. W. H. Harper, Yale College, Etc.
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Bee-Keeper's Guide—see page 703.

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40E25

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miums given to those deserving, and a number of them were carried away, as was shown on page 685.

The most attractive exhibit was the automatic reversible honey-extractor, of Van Allen & Williams. All present pronounced it the best they had seen.

Our foul-brood delegate, N. E. France, gave a report of the work he did in trying to get the foul-brood bill through the legislature. Although he failed, we hope to be in better shape at the next meeting of the legislature to push the bill, for our industry must be protected.

All enjoyed the meeting because of the hearty welcome and pleasant reception at the home of E. France & Son. The next meeting will be held in Wauzeka.

Boscobel, Wis.

M. M. RICE, Sec.

[No doubt, Mr. Rice, the question-box was a profitable part of your meeting, but all would like to know something about the "new ideas brought out." Why not give a full report of those interesting discussions?—EDITOR.]

Late Pollen Gathering, Etc.

As I was out in the bee-yard yesterday (Oct. 27) I saw bees carrying in pollen. I think this is the latest I ever saw bees carrying pollen into the hives. As there is quite a lot of dandelion in bloom, I think that is where it comes from.

There is quite a change in the weather since yesterday. The thermometer registered 62 degrees, Fahr., in the shade, and this morning it registers 30 degrees, Fahr. It is snowing quite hard. Wm. CRAIG, Luce, Mich.

Convention Notices.

CALIFORNIA.—The California State Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its next annual meeting in the Chamber of Commerce in Los Angeles, on Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 18 and 19, the first session commencing at 2 p.m. on the 18th. This meeting will be largely devoted to the subject of marketing our honey. A large and representative gathering is desired, for plans are to be considered that will have a vital bearing upon our future honey markets. JOHN H. MARTIN, Sec. Bloomington, Calif.

ILLINOIS.—The Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its annual meeting at the State House in Springfield, Nov. 19 and 20, 1895. The I. O. O. F. have their grand encampment, beginning on Nov. 19, and they have secured an open rate of a fare and a third for the round trip, from all points in the State. So we hope for a large attendance and a good meeting.

The Special Meeting of the Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in Chicago, at the New Briggs House, northeast corner of Randolph St. and Fifth Ave., on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 9 and 10, 1896—the week of the National Cycle Show—when excursion rates will be given. Notice will be published later as to whether these rates will be on the certificate plan or otherwise. Chicago hotel rates are 75 cents each, per night, two in a room; \$1.00 if one in a room. Meals extra—pay for what you order, or go elsewhere for meals, if preferred. JAS. A. STONE, Sec. Bradfordton, Ill.

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46 E4t Mention the American Bee Journal

Honey & Beeswax Market Quotations.

CHICAGO, ILL., Oct. 16.—We never had as good inquiry for honey as this fall, and never sold as much. We have not received as good prices owing to the amount of California stock unloaded on this market, which was sold at a very low price, both comb and extracted. We quote: No. 1 and fancy, 13@15c.; amber and dark, 8@11c. Extracted, 5@7c. Beeswax, 28c. J. A. L.

BUFAALO, N. Y., Oct. 14.—Honey is in good demand. We quote: Fancy, mostly 16c.; choice, 14@15c.; buckwheat sells slowly at 10@12c. Extracted very quiet. Will advance liberally upon all choice shipments of honey. Beeswax wanted at 28@30c. B. & Co.

CHICAGO, ILL., Nov. 7.—Comb honey, if fancy in all ways, sells at 15c., but the bulk of sales of white comb that grades No. 1 is sold at 13c. Amber or yellow brings 9@11c.; dark and brown, 8@10c., according to finish and flavor. There are large offerings of extracted at prices ranging from 4@7c., according to color, body, flavor and package. Beeswax, 28@30c. R. A. B. & Co.

CHICAGO, ILL., Oct. 19.—We quote: Fancy white comb, 1-lbs., 14c.; No. 1 white, 13c.; amber, 12@12½c.; buckwheat, 10c. Extracted, as to quality and style of package, 5@6½c. Beeswax, 30c. S. T. F. & Co.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Nov. 8.—Demand for comb honey is very good, particularly fancy white, and is moving out about as fast as it arrives. We quote: Fancy clover, 1-lbs., 15@16c.; white, 13@14c.; fair, 11@12c.; buckwheat, 10@10½c. Extracted, buckwheat, 5@5½c., with supply equal to demand; white clover and basswood, 6@7c., with supply short and demand good; Southern, 5@5½c. per gallon. Beeswax, 27@29c.; extra fancy, 30@31c. C. I. & B.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Nov. 8.—The demand for comb and extracted honey is fair; receipts fair. We quote: No. 1 white, 1-lbs., 13@14c.; No. 2, 12@13c.; No. 1 amber, 12@13c.; No. 2, 10@11c.; dark, 8@10c. Extracted, white, 6@6½c.; amber, 5@5½c.; Southern, dark, 4@4½c. Beeswax, 22@25c. C. C. C. & Co.

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 9.—Our honey market is in good shape, although prices, like on most all products, are not high; but receipts are lighter than last year, and there is a good, steady demand, with a real scarcity of white honey. We quote: White clover, 15@16c.; mixed clover, 12@14c.; dark clover, 9@11c. Extracted, white, 6@7c.; mixed, 5@6c.; dark, 5@5½c. H. R. W.

CINCINNATI, O., Nov. 8.—There is a fair demand for honey, with a bountiful supply. Comb honey sells at 12@15c., according to quality, in a jobbing way. Extracted brings 4@7c. on arrival. Beeswax is in good demand at 20@25c. for good to choice yellow. C. F. M. & S.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Nov. 4.—The demand is good for all grades of comb honey, especially fancy white. We quote: Fancy white, 1-lbs., glassed or in paper boxes, 15c.; fair white, 12@13c.; buckwheat, 10@11c. Unglassed, fancy white, 14c.; fair white, 11@12c.; buckwheat, 9@10c. No 2-pound sections on the market and no demand for any. The demand for extracted honey has been rather limited of late, with plenty of stock arriving. We quote: California, 5½@6c.; white clover or basswood, 6c.; Southern, 45@55c. per gallon. Beeswax dull at 27@28c. for average quality. H. B. & S.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 23.—Honey is selling freely, and good, choice comb sells on arrival. Pure Western extracted white clover sells very quickly and is in big demand. We quote: Fancy white clover, 16c.; choice, 14c.; dark, 11c. Extracted, 5½@6½c.; pure white clover, 8@9c. Beeswax will not, in our judgment, advance much more, as it did last year, large quantities having been laid up at low prices. It sells fairly well at 26c. on arrival. W. A. S.

Please Send Us the Names of your neighbors who keep bees, and we will send them sample copies of the BEE JOURNAL. Then please call upon them and get them to subscribe with you, and secure some of the premiums we offer.

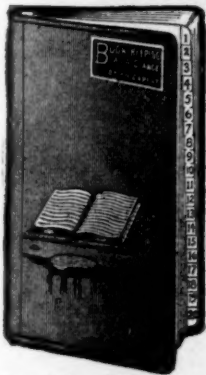
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Question-Box.

In the multitude of counsellors there is safety.—Prov. 11-14.

Catching an Apiary Thief.

Query 996.—What method would you take to catch a thief that felt free to visit your apiary and slip out a comb here and there when you were absent from home?—Parsonage Apiary.

P. H. Elwood—Offer a reward of \$25 or \$50.

Mrs. L. Harrison—Keep Cyprian bees or a bulldog.

W. R. Graham—I would watch as closely as possible.

Dr. J. P. H. Brown—Set a tread or trigger gun for him.

Prof. A. J. Cook—I would have to know all the surroundings.

Eugene Secor—I don't know, but I'd catch him some way—if I could.

J. E. Pond—Watch for him capture him in the act, and then "go for him."

R. L. Taylor—I would set a watch if I expected the depredation to be repeated.

E. France—I have some trouble with thieves, and would like to know how to catch them.

Rev. M. Mahin—That is a hard question to answer. It would depend upon circumstances.

Dr. C. C. Miller—The only effort I ever made was to watch in ambush. But the effort was a failure.

J. A. Green—Probably the best plan would be to have some reliable person keep watch "on the quiet."

Rev. E. T. Abbott—I can't say what I would do. I have not had much experience in the detective business.

B. Taylor—I would watch for him and catch him by his coat tail, provided he had one; if not, I would seize him by his hair or whiskers.

C. H. Dibbern—I should set a trap for him; i. e., leave some one to watch the apiary when the thief would suppose the folks were all away from home.

Mrs. J. N. Heater—Whilesuch a thing would be annoying and mean, yet if it were not repeated often enough to cause a considerable loss, I should prefer not to know just who did it.

Chas. Dadant & Son—If you know who he is, send him a comb of honey, and ask him to come to your house instead of your apiary for what honey he wants. That will stop him.

W. G. Larrabee—I think a good way would be to leave a good, trusty bulldog at home, and may be you could fit the piece of cloth that was found in the dog's mouth into the hole in the thief's trousers.

J. M. Hambaugh—Have a wire connected to the trigger of a shot-gun at one end, and secured at the other, and stretched through the yard so as to catch the foot of intruders. A blank cartridge is sufficient. They will never come back.

G. W. Demaree—Well, now my experience is with night prowlers. To keep this class of thieves out of my apiary, I have kept a sort of street-lamp burning all night, that casts its light over the en-

tire apiary. If I had a daytime sneak to deal with, I would manage to make him believe I was going away to be gone all day, but instead of going away, I would "lay for him," and give him a lecture on the moral law, if he was found transgressing.

G. M. Doolittle—Try the religion of Jesus Christ on him. You undoubtedly guess who he is. Make friends with him, and a little later give him 10 or more pounds of nice section honey, and that will punish him more, and do you more good than to use the law on him, could you "catch" him.

W. M. Barnum—Mark your frames, and set somebody to watching. It seems to me suspicion would naturally fall upon some hybrid bee-keeper, and that it would not be difficult to get proper authority to examine his apiary, and, if your combs were marked, to secure thereby sufficient evidence to convict the thief.

J. M. Jenkins—I would "lay for him," with a shot-gun, "not necessarily for use, but as a guarantee of good faith," etc., at some time when I was absent (?); or have a friend to do so for me. He is a very considerate thief, to take only "a comb here and there;" while most of them ruin a colony, or carry it away in toto.

H. D. Cutting—It is not much of a thief that takes but a comb "here and there." It may be some other preacher, for a joke. You should invite him to sit up with a good dog, and if you wanted to make it a little hotter for him, go out and preach to him for a few hours, just for practice. You will find 27 excellent texts.

Jas. A. Stone—Do as I once did for a watermelon patch. Load a gun with only powder, and attach a very fine wire to the trigger, where he will trip it. One day while at dinner we heard the gun. Said nothing about it. Before many days a boy not far away told that I shot at him in my melon patch. I was not bothered for years after.

Allen Pringle—As the question is signed "Parsonage Apiary," I take it that a parson asks the question. Well, Parson, I will tell you what I should do if I were in your place: I would try first to cure him by "heaping coals of fire upon his head"—not, of course, literally, but metaphorically, or rather, scripturally. As soon as I got home and found he "had been and gone and done it" again, I would count carefully the number of frames he had taken, then I would take a like number of frames—the exact number—and send them over to him accompanied by a note stating that you could ill spare those frames—that your colonies would suffer on account of their removal—but begging him to accept them, as you were convinced from what took place in your bee-yard in your absence, that he needed the frames very badly—perhaps worse than you did—and that you had accordingly sent them to him. If his cussedness—his "innate depravity" was such that this failed to melt him (to burn his conscience) then I would set a bear-trap for him, and pray night and morning that he get into it.

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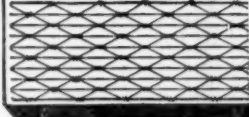
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Appreciating the value of Chicago as a distributing point, and having the opportunity presented to us we have bought out the good-will and stock of bee-keepers' supplies of Thos. G. Newman, who has conducted a successful business there for many years. The following notice explains further:

To whom it may concern:—

I have this day sold to the A. I. Root Co., of Medina, Ohio, my business in Chicago, as "Dealer in Bee-keepers' supplies," together with the good-will of the same; and while thanking my many friends and customers during the past 20 years for their generous patronage, I would bespeak a continuance of the same for my successors, who are well-known manufacturers and dealers in apiarian supplies, and can fill all orders, whether large or small, with promptness and accuracy.

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 16, 1895.

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